

S-324

c. 1900

Albert Sterling House

Crisfield

Private

The most eye-catching feature ^{of} this turn of the century house is its rare Eastlake-style front porch with arched wood screens dominating each bay. The turned post porch railing has equally unusual rectangular panels with a series of five or six round hole cut-outs. In comparison, the two-story, two-bay side hall/parlor frame house is relatively plain. A few gabled dormers and a bay window on the east side add interesting shapes to the ell-shaped dwelling. The interior retains most of its period oak woodwork.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-324

Magi No. 2003245704

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Albert Sterling House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 23 West Main Street not for publicationcity, town Crisfield vicinity ofcongressional district Firststate Marylandcounty Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> X </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u> X </u> building(s)	<u> X </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> X </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u> X </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u> X </u> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Thomas and Arlene Roerigstreet & number 23 West Main Streettelephone no.: 968-3787city, town Crisfieldstate and zip code Maryland 21817

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liberstreet & number Somerset County Courthouse foliocity, town Princess Annestate Maryland 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

 federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Albert Sterling House Description

The Albert Sterling house stands at 23 West Main Street in Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The c. 1900 two-story frame house faces north with the principal gable running on a north/south axis.

The two-story aluminum sheathed frame house is supported by a stuccoed brick foundation and is covered by a medium pitched asphalt shingle roof. The eaves are extended, and the soffits are sloped. The ell-shaped frame house has a shorter two-story service wing that extends to the rear.

The north (main) facade is an asymmetrical ell-shaped elevation with a two-bay principal facade and a single-bay recessed side entrance. The front of the house and the west side is covered by a rare Eastlake style porch supported by pairs of turned posts and distinguished by arched wood screens between each pair of posts. The porch railing is also intact and consists of turned posts, turned balusters and a molded handrail. Between the pairs of porch posts and under the arched screen is a rectangular wood panel with six round holes cut out. These decorative panels are located on the west side of the porch as well. Finally the porch step hand rails with turned posts and turned balusters are also intact. The two-bay main facade consists of a glazed and paneled door in the right (west) bay and an adjacent single-pane sash window with louvered aluminum shutters. The second floor is pierced by two single-pane sash windows, while the upper gable has a paired set of single-pane sash windows with a decorative bracketed hood. A recessed side door occupies the far right bay and is topped by a single-pane transom window. The second floor is pierced by a single-pane sash window.

The west elevation of the main house, two bays deep, is an uneven wall surface with a single-pane sash window marking each bay. The section of roof above the north bay has a triangular-shaped dormer with a small pointed arch sash window. The upper gable of the south bay is filled with an identical pointed arch attic light.

In contrast, the opposite side or east elevation is an even wall surface, two bays across. A three-sided bay window fill the south bay and is topped by a bell-curved roof and a turned post railing. The balance of openings are single-pane sash windows, and the roof is distinguished by two triangular dormers with Gothic arch attic lights.

Extending to the south is a non-descript two-story single-bay kitchen wing.

The modified side hall/parlor plan interior has survived with a large portion of its turn-of-the-century woodwork. A heavily turned newel post and turned balusters support an oval-profile handrail that curves at the second floor and continues as the second floor hall railing. The front and back rooms are joined by a large sliding door opening with molded surrounds and bulls-eye corner blocks. The mantel in the back room is typical of turn-of-the-century millwork decoration. The mantel in the west room or dining room is painted slate with an arched hearth opening and a molded and curving shelf. The kitchen has been generally remodeled, but some beaded board wainscoting was preserved.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Albert Sterling house is a significant early twentieth century dwelling, especially noteworthy for its unusual Eastlake style porch with arched wood screens. The original weatherboarding and decorative siding has been covered with aluminum. Inside, the first floor retains a large portion of its Victorian style woodwork.

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Albert Sterling House
Crisfield, MD-VA Quadrangle, 1968

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Crisfield, MD-VA Quadrangle, 1968

L a w s o n
M a r s h

Ware Point

M a r s h

Long Pt Long Point Island



Albert Sterling House
Crisfield, Somerset County
North Elevation
7/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

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Crisfield, Somerset County
North Elevation
7/85 Photographer - Paul Touart
Neg/Maryland Historical Trust

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North Elevation

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